

REMARKS

The examiner has indicated that the applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species of an invention for prosecution on the merits from the following inventions groups of species of the claimed invention:

Group I: Product, class 257, subclass 79

Species 1: Figs. 1-5

Species 2: Figs. 6

10 Species 3: Figs. 7-10

Species 4: Figs. 11-14

Group II: Method, class 438, subclass 22

Species 1: Figs. 1-5

15 Species 2: Figs. 6

Species 3: Figs. 7-10

Species 4: Figs. 11-14

Response:

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Claims 23, 39 are amended to fix missing spaces. Claims 27-30 and 41-43 are amended to properly define the metes and bounds of the claims. A new claim 44 is introduced based on the original claims 23 and 39. No new matter is introduced in this Office action.

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The applicant elects Group I: Species 1 of invention Figs. 1-5 for prosecution on the merits in response to the above election requirement. The claims readable on the elected Species are claims 23-25, 27, 29-30 and the new claim 44.

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Since Group I: Species 2 and 3 are covered by the generic claim 44, if the generic claim 44 is allowed later on, the applicant wishes claims 26, 28 (Group I: Species 2) and 39-43 (Group I: Species 3) can also be examined by the examiner in the present

application.

Sincerely,

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